



**Ti** **Tihikila slice (Tertiary)**—Fine- to medium-grained, seriate to subequigranular, hydromorphic-granular, biotite-hornblende quartz diorite to granodiorite.  $\text{K-Ar}$ , 7-13; may contain as much as 23 percent light-colored clinopyroxene. Biotite  $\text{K-Ar}$  age: 44.6±1.3 Ma (Marvin Laphandre, oral commun., 1988)

**Tcr** **Terra Cotta plutons (Tertiary)**—Two compositionally variable plutons. Fine- to medium-grained, seriate to porphyritic, hydromorphic-granular, hornblende-pyroxene-biotite quartz monzonidite to granite.  $\text{K-Ar}$ , 10-27; Originally mapped as part of the Hartman plutons (Reed and Ellinger, 1972) but distinguished by distinctively different textures. Westernmost quartz yielded biotite  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  age of 45.8±4.7 Ma (Marvin Laphandre, oral commun., 1989); eastern pluton, biotite  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  age of 37.9±1.14 Ma (Solie and others, 1991)

**Tms** **McKinley sequence(?) granites (Tertiary)**—Fine- to coarse-grained, seriate, hydromorphic-granular or porphyritic biotite granite.  $\text{K-Ar}$ , 1-8  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  age on porphyritic phase, 65.0±0.5 Ma (Marvin Laphandre, oral commun., 1989); although this  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  age is approximately 10 m.y. older than K-Ar ages for McKinley sequence plutons in area. B. Reed (oral commun., 1990) believed that chemistry (unpublished) and mineralogy data suggest that these granites belong to a different sequence of rocks of Laphandre and Reed (1989)

**Tbp** **Tired Pup pluton (Tertiary)**—Biotite or biotite-hornblende granite, locally, granodiorite. Chiefly medium to coarse grained, seriate to subequigranular, locally porphyritic; contains alkali-feldspar megacrysts as long as 5 cm. Member of McKinley sequence of granitic rocks of Laphandre and Reed (1985).  $\text{K-Ar}$ , 4-16. Four K-Ar ages range from 56.7±1.7 to 58.6±1.8 Ma; two other K-Ar ages, 40.1±1.2 Ma, 40.9±1.2 Ma (Reed and Laphandre, 1972). Older ages fit well with other McKinley sequence intrusions, whereas younger ages might represent resetting by younger, unexposed intrusions.

**Tup** **Tired Pup pluton (Tertiary)**—Granite. Very light-colored, fine- to coarse-grained, seriate, hydromorphic-granular, biotite granite.  $\text{K-Ar}$ , 2-4; Contact with the Tired Pup pluton (Tup) appears to be gradational. Presumed to be Tertiary age, as is the main Tired Pup pluton

**Tbr** **Big River pluton (Tertiary)**—Medium- to coarse-grained, seriate, biotite granite.  $\text{K-Ar}$ , 3-8. Similar to, and possiblyophy of, the 56.7 to 58.69 Ma Tired Pup pluton (Tup) that is exposed about 1.25 km to south

**Tmt** **Necola Mountains pluton (Tertiary)**—Medium- to coarse-grained, seriate, hydromorphic-granular, biotite-hornblende quartz diorite, granodiorite, and granite. These compositions were determined from modal analyses, but separate phases were not mapped.  $\text{K-Ar}$ , 9-29. K-Ar age, 57.5±1.7 Ma (Marvin Laphandre, oral commun., 1988)

**Tip** **Chilligan porphyry (Tertiary)**—Fine- to coarse-grained, biotite or biotite-hornblende, hydromorphic-granular granite or granodiorite porphyry containing alkali-feldspar phenocrysts as long as 6 cm.  $\text{K-Ar}$ , 5-24. K-Ar ages: 60.6±1.8 Ma, 61.3±1.8 Ma (Reed and Laphandre, 1972)

**Tcs** **Crystal Creek pluton (Tertiary)**—Medium- to coarse-grained, seriate to porphyritic, hydromorphic-granular, biotite-hornblende alkali-feldspar granite to granodiorite.  $\text{K-Ar}$ , 4-16. Concordant biotite and hornblende K-Ar ages: 60.0±1.7 Ma, 60.2±0.9 Ma (Reed and Laphandre, 1972). Contact between this pluton and the Chilligan porphyry (Tup) is not well exposed, but mineralogy, chemistry (unpublished), and age data suggest this pluton and the Chilligan porphyry might actually represent single intrusion.

**Gabbro** **Gabbro (Tertiary)**—Dark, hornblende- and pyroxene-hornblende gabbro. Fine to medium grained, seriate to equigranular, quartz monzonidite-granite texture. Locally exhibiting cumulate(?) mineral layering.  $\text{K-Ar}$ , typically 34-40; one sample had Cl of 18. Limited sampling and mapping suggests this is complex, multiphase intrusion.  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  age of 61.4±0.7 Ma (Marvin Laphandre, oral commun., 1989)

**Tse** **Snopcap east pluton (Tertiary?)**—Compositional and age variation suggests that this unit probably consists of multiple plutons. Modal compositions include gabbro, quartz monzonidite, quartz monzonite, and granite. Contact relations between various phases could not be mapped owing to erosion of the pluton.  $\text{K-Ar}$ , 16-30. Age determinations, two biotite K-Ar ages from quartz monzonidite, 41.5±1.2 Ma, 50.1±1.5 Ma (Reed and Laphandre, 1972); biotite  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  age from quartz monzonite, 64.8±0.5 Ma (Marvin Laphandre, oral commun., 1988)

**Middle Fork stock (Tertiary)**—Porphyritic orthoclase-hornblende quartz monzonidite. *CI*, 20. K-Ar age, 63.9±0.5 Ma (Marvin Lanchphre, oral commun., 1988). Small gold-bearing stream reported along northeast contact (P. Sainsbury, oral commun., 1987; T.K. Bundzen, oral commun., 1993).

**Hartman plutons (Tertiary)**—At least four plutons and smaller satellite bodies. Chiefly fine- to medium-grained, seriate, hornblende-biotite granodiorite and lesser amounts of quartz monzonite, granite, and quartz monzonidite. *CI*, 9-29. One pluton yielded biotite K-Ar age of 64±0.13 Ma (Reed and Lanchphre, 1972); two other plutons yielded <sup>40</sup>Ar/<sup>39</sup>Ar biotite ages of 65.1±0.4 Ma, 65.1±0.6 Ma (Marvin Lanchphre, oral commun., 1989).

**Mount Estelle pluton (Tertiary)**—Chiefly medium- to coarse-grained, seriate, hypidomorphic-granular biotite-hornblende granodiorite. Locally, grades into granite. *CI*, 8-26. Concordant biotite and hornblende K-Ar ages: 62.1±1.9 Ma, 64.1±1.8 Ma (Reed and Lanchphre, 1972).

Tertiary or Cretaceous

**Lyman Fork plutons (Tertiary or Cretaceous)**—Southern pluton is chiefly granite to monzonidite; northern pluton is monzonidite. Both are fine to medium grained, seriate, and hypidomorphic-granular, and they contain quartz, orthoclase and amphibole. *CI*, 18-40. Presumed to be Tertiary or Cretaceous. No well-dated igneous rocks in map area.

**Sted Pass gabbro (Tertiary or Cretaceous)**—Fine- to medium-grained, seriate, hypidomorphic-granular gabbro. Highly variable mineral composition; contains plagioclase, biotite, amphibole-quartz, orthopyroxene, clinopyroxene, olivine, and as much as 6 percent opaque oxides and 4 percent apatite. *CI*, 21-40.

**Goldpan Peak gabbro (Tertiary or Cretaceous)**—Fine- to coarse-grained gabbro that has hypidomorphic-granular or intergranular fabric. *CI*, typically 42-55; one leucogabbro sample had *CI* of 15. Contains both clinopyroxene and orthopyroxene and, locally, minor amounts of olivine.

**Tex Peak gabbro (Tertiary or Cretaceous)**—Fine-grained equigranular or fine- to medium-grained seriate, hypidomorphic-granular, hornblende-clinopyroxene orthopyroxene gabbro. Pyroxene variably altered to actinolite. *CI*, 25-40. At least partly fault bounded.

**Necans River pluton (Tertiary or Cretaceous)**—Fine- to coarse-grained, seriate, hypidomorphic-granular, hornblende-biotite granite to granodiorite; locally, fine grained equigranular or porphyritic. Dark phases of diorite to gabbro composition are present locally and may be large rills of older intrusion. Intrudes and supports several large roof pendents of Kakoma River sequence sedimentary rocks. *CI*, 10-30. K-Ar ages: 64.0±1.8 Ma, 69.5±2.5 Ma (Reed and Lanchphre, 1969; Reed and Lanchphre, 1972).

**Mount Estelle gabbro (Tertiary or Cretaceous)**—Very fine- to fine-grained, subequigranular, pyroxene-amphibole gabbro intrusion. *CI*, 20-30.

**Apocalypse gabbro (Tertiary or Cretaceous)**—Fine-grained, equigranular, clinopyroxene ± amphibole diorite or gabbro. Hypidomorphic-granular to subophitic texture. *CI*, 30-40.

**Dikes (Tertiary and Cretaceous)**—Mapped in areas where dikes may exceed 50 percent of bedrock; however, none of these areas are well exposed. Dike composition, which is variable, even within single zone, ranges from light-colored felsic porphyry to dark gabbro. Widths range from 3 m to 15 m. Intrudes until K6.

**Undifferentiated plutonic rocks (Tertiary and Cretaceous)**—Small intrusions of unknown age affiliation with other, more well known intrusions is uncertain. Compositions range from granite to gabbro. Textures include seriate, equigranular, and porphyritic. *CI*, about 10-40.

Cretaceous

Ksp	<b>South Fork gabbro (Cretaceous)</b> —Fine- to medium-grained, seriate, hydromorphic-granular hornblende-pyroxene-biotite gabbro. Has crude foliation defined by subparallel alignment of plagioclase crystals. C1, 52-55. Biotite K-Ar age, 71±2.0 Ma (Reed and Lanphere, 1972)
Ksp	<b>Sied Pass pluton (Cretaceous)</b> —Fine- to coarse-grained, seriate monzonite and monzodiorite. C1, 22-41. Locally well-developed cataclastic foliation. Age determinations: hornblende K-Ar ages, 76.0±2.1 Ma (Reed and Lanphere, 1972); discordant <sup>40</sup> Ar/ <sup>39</sup> Ar ages, 70.1±0.4 Ma, 75.6±0.3 Ma, on biotite and hornblende (from same sample), respectively; and another biotite <sup>40</sup> Ar/ <sup>39</sup> Ar age of 73.5±0.3 Ma (Marvin Lanphere, oral commun., 1989)
Ksp	<b>Quartz monzodiorite stocks (Cretaceous)</b> —Fine- to medium-grained, seriate to porphyritic, hornblende quartz-monzodiorite. C1, 7-12. Hornblende K-Ar age, 79.1±1.4 Ma (Marvin Lanphere, oral commun., 1988)

**Sedimentary rocks, unfossiliferated (Cretaceous)**—Dark-gray to black, interbedded mudstone, siltstone, and sandstone beds. Sequences. Thickness of individual beds typically ranges from a few millimeters to 10 cm. Percentage of fine-grained and coarse-grained beds varies, but rocks are dominantly fine grained. In map area, rocks are folded, faulted, and, adjacent to plutons, altered to hornfels. Sandstones rich in volcanic-lithic fragments are similar in composition to sandstones of Kahluhta assemblage of Kalbas and others (2007); sandstones rich in monocrystalline quartz are similar in composition to sandstones of Kuskokwim Group of Cadz and others (1955). Preliminary compositional and age data indicate complicated distribution of sandstones that have different compositions, supporting possible repetition of section by folding or faulting. Our limited data is best represented by this unfossiliferated Cretaceous sedimentary map unit

**Kokstetra River sequence? (Cretaceous to Jurassic)**—Interbedded mudstone-grayscale turbidite sequence and minor volcanic flows. Lithic grains consist of argillite, chert, and volcanic rocks; sandstone and siltstone lithic grains are present in approximately equal amounts. Locally, strongly altered to hornfels. Locally correlated with Kokstetra River sequence of Wallace and others (1989) on basis of overall lithologic composition. Fossil collections reported by Wallace and others (1989) yielded *Kimberlinian* (Upper Jurassic) and *Valanginian* (Lower Cretaceous) ages

**Ps** **Mystic and Dillinger sequences of Farewell terrane of Decker and others (1994) (Pennsylvanian? to Cambrian)**—Interbedded limestone, mudstone, shale, sandstone, and conglomerate, as described in McGrath 1:250,000-scale quadrangle to the northeast (Bundtzen and others, 1987; Gilbert and others, 1988). Platform carbonate deposits of White Mountain sequence are not present in map area. In fault contact with Kahlbas assemblage of Kalbas and others (2007) (unit Ks) and intruded by the Tired Pup pluton (unit Ttp) and several smaller intrusions

METAMORPHIC ROCKS	
TKgp	<b>Orthogneiss (Tertiary or Cretaceous?)</b> —Fine- to coarse-grained orthogneiss; texture varies from cataclastic to noncataclastic. Contains approximately 40 to 60 percent feldspar, 20 to 40 percent quartz, and 15 percent biotite and hornblende. White mica and garnet are locally present. Contact with the middle Tertiary Merrill Pass pluton (unit Trmp) not exposed, but they were presumably in contact. Occurs in the south and west of metamorphic unknowns.
Trv	<b>Chilikadrota Greenstone (Late Triassic)</b> —Mafic lava flows, metamorphosed to greenschists, and lesser amounts of marble and chert. Highly deformed and sheared. Greenstone locality has rounded outcrop appearance, suggesting deposition as submarine pillow lava flows. Marble converted to skarn near intrusive bodies. Wallace and others (1989) reported remnants of Norian-age brachiopods in brachiopods of probable Norian age from units in Lake Clark 1:250,000-scale quadrangle.

Fig	<b>Massive greenstone member of the Chilikadrotna Greenstone (Late Triassic)</b> —Dark greenish-black, massive, fine-grained equigranular body that contains approximately equal amounts of plagioclase and altered mafic minerals. Strongly shear foliated near fault contacts
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### EXPLANATION OF MAP SYMBOLS

..... **Contact**—Solid where location is certain; long-dashed where approximate; short-dashed where inferred; dotted where concealed  
 — ····· **Fault**—Solid where location is certain; long-dashed where approximate; dotted where concealed  
 ————— **Moraine**—End, recessional, and lateral moraine limit  
 ———— **Lake Clark National Park and Preserve boundary**

	Strike and dip of beds
	Inclined
	Approximate
	Vertical
	Vertical approximate
	Overturned
Strike and dip of foliation	
	Inclined
	Vertical
Strike and dip of cleavage	
	Inclined

## INTRODUCTION

This map is compiled from geologic mapping conducted between 1985 and 1992 by the U.S. Geological Survey as part of the Alaska Mineral Resource Assessment Program (AMRAP). That mapping built upon previous USGS work (1963-1988) conducted chiefly by Bruce L. Reed and colleagues, notably Marvin A. Lanphere and Raymond I. Elliott. Bruce Reed spent most of his career conducting geologic mapping in the western Alaska Range and, with Marvin Lanphere, unraveling the magmatic history of the Alaska-Aleutian Range batholith. Quaternary unit contacts depicted on this map are derived largely from aerial-photograph interpretation by Donald Richter. K-Ar ages made prior to this study have been recalculated using 1977 decay constants (Steiger and Jager, 1977).

The east half of the Lime Hills 1:250,000-scale quadrangle includes part of the Alaska-Alutian Range batholith (Reed and Lamphere, 1967, 1973) and several sequences of sedimentary rocks or mixed sedimentary and volcanic rocks. The Alaska-Alutian Range batholith contains rocks that represent three major igneous episodes, (1) Early and Middle Jurassic, (2) Late Cretaceous and early Tertiary, and (3) middle Tertiary; only rocks from the latter two episodes are found in this map area. Cretaceous sedimentary rocks proper (i.e., not volcanic) occur in the northeastern part of the map area and the Kuskokwim Group (in the southwestern part of the area), are herein shown as a single, undivided unit, recent unpublished compositional and age data, which indicate a complicated distribution of sandstones of different compositions, suggest that these rocks are best represented by an undifferentiated Cretaceous sedimentary map unit (K6). Other sedimentary rocks that are the Kolskeeta River sequence (in the southeastern part of the map area) and the (in the northeastern part of the map area) and the Mysic and Dillingers sequences of Fairbanks (in the northeastern part of the map area) are herein shown as a single, undivided unit, recent unpublished compositional and age data, which indicate a complicated distribution of sandstones of different compositions, suggest that these rocks are best represented by an undifferentiated Cretaceous sedimentary map unit (K6). Other sedimentary rocks that are the Kolskeeta River sequence (in the southeastern part of the map area) and the (in the northeastern part of the map area) and the Mysic and Dillingers sequences of Fairbanks (in the northeastern part of the map area) are herein shown as a single, undivided unit, recent unpublished compositional and age data, which indicate a complicated distribution of sandstones of different compositions, suggest that these rocks are best represented by an undifferentiated Cretaceous sedimentary map unit (K6). Other sedimentary rocks that are the Kolskeeta River sequence (in the southeastern part of the map area) and the (in the northeastern part of the map area) and the Mysic and Dillingers sequences of Fairbanks (in the northeastern part of the map area) are herein shown as a single, undivided unit, recent unpublished compositional and age data, which indicate a complicated distribution of sandstones of different compositions, suggest that these rocks are best represented by an undifferentiated Cretaceous sedimentary map unit (K6).

The map area is one of very steep and rugged terrain, elevations range from a little under 1,000 ft (305 m) to 9,828 ft (2,996 m). Foot traverses are generally restricted to lowest-vent elevations. Areas suitable for helicopter landings can be scarce at higher elevations. Most of the area was mapped from the air, supplemented by ground reconnaissance. The geology was mapped from aerial photographs and ground reconnaissance. A detailed description of the geology was described and sampled entirely from talus deposits. This restricted access greatly complicated understanding some of the more complex geologic units. For example, we know there are plutons whose compositions vary from gabbro to granodiorite, but we have little insight as to how these phases are distributed and how they are related to the surrounding rocks. The only way we have to study these plutons is as compositionally complex pluton types might actually be several distinct intrusions.

All plutonic rock names used herein, which are from Streckeisen (1974), were determined from modal analyses (unpublished) of thin sections or rock slabs. Where mineral modalities are given for igneous rocks (see Table 1), the following abbreviations were used: gabbro, gabbroic granite, gabbroic diorite, and gabbroic diorite (hornblende granite), the most abundant mineral is listed first, and the least abundant mineral is listed last.

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# Geologic Map of the East Half of the Lime Hills 1:250,000-Scale Quadrangle, Alaska

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2013